

Soon will the thunder of his hands
 Boom through the lofty pines and firs,
 Thick with the lightning of his brand.
 On head for the Southern host

Knows this and loves this as he does
 The tramp of trumps and clash of arms
 On head for the Southern host

AN EPIGRAM FROM JEFF. THOMPSON.

Missouri produces not only warriors, but poets,
 and indeed, a combination of both, as witness the
 following from the pen of Mr. Jeff. Thompson—the
 veritable General-Jeff, who, at the head of a com-
 pany of "Bohewackers," has been firing into un-
 armed steamboats, and picking up stray travelers in
 south-west Missouri for the past six months, winning
 from Rebel journals the sobriquets of the "Swamp
 Fox," and the "Marion of the Southern Revolution."
 It is entitled "Home Again," and appears in
 that whimsical newspaper, *The N. O. P.*

My dear wife waits my coming,
 My children find my name,
 And kind friends bid me welcome
 To my own home again.

My father's grave lies on the hill,
 My boys sleep in the vale,
 I have each rock, and murmuring rill,
 Each mountain, hill and dale.

I'll suffer hardships, toil and pain
 For the good that is to come,
 I'll battle long that I may gain
 My freedom and my home.

I will return, though foes may stand,
 Disputing every rod,
 My own dear home, my native land,
 I'll win you yet, by—

Home again!

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was "timidity" which is, of course, a qualified de-
 gree of cowardice.

Now, in relation to this contract for the construc-
 tion of earthworks in St. Louis, I wish to say that I
 will be frank upon this subject as upon every other.
 I do not approve of this contract. I think the con-
 tractor made too much money out of it. I do not
 suppose it was made upon the judgment of Gen.
 Fremont, but that he yielded to the opinions of the
 Engineer Department about prices. I think the
 prices were too high, and truth compels me to say
 so, because, when I stand before the truth to vindicate
 him or myself else. If I speak at all, I must ex-
 press my convictions. But, admitting that there was
 extravagance in his Department, I ask whether
 every other Department of the army has been man-
 aged with more care and less extravagance?

Gen. Thomas says in his report that 250 or 300
 houses were found and burned, although it is not
 true, and that Fremont had seen a single one of them.
 Well, Sir, when I came to Washington at the begin-
 ning of the present session, upon looking into the
 matter, I noticed the sale of 1,400 condemned Govern-
 ment horses, of the army of the Potomac, which
 brought prices ranging from 25 cents to \$50. Yet
 my friend had no objection against the burning of
 houses in this case. In time of war, in conducting
 operations on so extensive a scale, the experi-
 ence of England in the Crimean war and of all
 other nations at such times unfortunately prove that
 it is not to be expected that everything would be
 perfectly right, that all articles should be suddenly
 bought of the best quality and at the lowest prices.
 I noticed, also, that the exacting and capricious
 demands of the military authorities against Gen.
 Hunter, that Fremont had ordered him into the
 field, and that he had 40 wagons and only 41 mules.
 And the very next of the exhibits was a complaint
 by Quartermaster Turner, within a few days of the
 date of Gen. Hunter's letter, complaining that
 Fremont had ordered him to push on the inspection of
 mules as rapidly as possible. I think these two
 complaints cancel each other. But how could
 Fremont have satisfied such critics?

My friend from Missouri vindicates the character of
 the City of St. Louis. I wish I could believe all he
 says about the loyalty of that city, for I think it is a
 very pleasant city. I have spent many pleasant
 days there; I have enjoyed not only the hospitality
 of my friend from Missouri, representing the St.
 Louis, but also the hospitality of the city in the
 person of the gentleman who is now in the city.
 I believe with him that the great body of the
 working men of that city are loyal, but that a ma-
 jority of the men of wealth and high social position
 there are disloyal.

Mr. Blair (Rep., Mo.)—The gentleman is mis-
 taken.

Mr. Colfax—I cannot yield to my friend, at least
 until I have finished this sentence. Why, Sir, even
 since the late election, the command of the city of
 St. Louis, the Secession candidates for officers of
 the Chamber of Commerce of St. Louis were elected
 by a sweeping majority.

Mr. Blair (Rep., Mo.)—It is true that the Seces-
 sion candidates were elected by the Chamber of
 Commerce by a large majority, and the same fact is
 true in reference to the Mercantile Library Associa-
 tion of St. Louis, but that the command of the city
 of St. Louis, which was largely engaged in com-
 merce with the South, and were in that way
 identified with Secession. But I say to the gentle-
 man that I know the city well, and I know that the
 two regiments raised, which Gen. Lyon took pri-
 soners at Camp Jackson, were all the Secession troops
 they could raise and all they could arm. There was
 never any necessity of declaring martial law.

Mr. Colfax—I beg to say to my friend that I
 know something about St. Louis, though not of
 course, as much as he. I have not only visited
 frequently, but I read the newspapers published
 there, and particularly a paper which used to be
 considered his organ, but I believe is not now a
 favorite of his—*The St. Louis Democrat*. And my
 friend knows very well that in the case of the
 Mercantile Library Association and Secessionists, to
 make both, by which the Unionists and Secessionists,
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Mr. Blair (Missouri)—The reason why the
 Unionists were not elected to the Chamber of Com-
 merce was because they were excluded by a majority
 of the old members, under a technical rule requiring
 one day's notice before admission. I do not often
 read the organ of the Fremont party, of which the
 gentleman speaks, but I think I am pretty well
 acquainted with the facts, nevertheless.

Mr. Colfax—I have no doubt of it, and my friend
 knows very well that in the case of the Mercantile
 Library Association and Secessionists, to make both,
 by which the Unionists and Secessionists, made both,
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Mr. Blair (Missouri)—The gentleman will allow
 me to say—

Mr. Colfax—I cannot yield further. I did not
 interrupt my friend the whole time he was speak-
 ing.

Mr. Blair (Missouri)—The gentleman says they
 were only Secessionists. The gentleman from Missouri
 is out of order. The gentleman from Missouri is
 out of order. The gentleman from Missouri is out of
 order.

Mr. Blair (Missouri)—I am a little sensitive upon
 this point.

Mr. Colfax—Then I will yield, of course.

Mr. Blair (Missouri)—I merely desire to say that
 these men voted as they saw fit, and I am not
 candidate for a man known to be a Union man.

Mr. Colfax—Still, the statement remains uncon-
 tradicted that he was voted for as a Secession candi-
 date by those who sympathized with the men who
 are in arms against the Government, and was elected
 as such.

Mr. Chairman, I know that the men of the people
 of the City of St. Louis, the working people, I say
 proudly, are loyal. For Sir, what was the same
 General Fremont came back to that city after his
 removal, when he came with no favors to confer,
 but degraded, discolored, deposed from his command,
 the loyal people of that city, who had heard all the
 charges of their Representative against him, but
 who still confided in him, flocked by thousands and
 tens of thousands, with banners and torchlights
 and music, to meet him, and to bid him welcome
 as ever welcomed them before. Oh, yes, Sir, the heart
 of the people of St. Louis is loyal; they have proved
 it so.

RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE DEATH OF GENERAL
 LYON.

My friend from St. Louis has quoted documents
 and presented arguments to prove that Gen. Fre-
 mont had it in his power to re-enforce Gen. Lyon
 before the battle of Springfield, and that his failure
 to perform that duty was the cause of Gen. Lyon's
 death, and I now desire to examine. Sir, the docu-
 ments which Gen. Lyon presented, on August 1st, and
 the fragments of the fragments from Missouri
 for Gen. Fremont continued undisturbed for weeks
 after. He continued to be the friend of the man
 whom he now arraigns as a guilty criminal; for if
 the charges he makes are proved, Gen. Fremont, in
 willfully suffering the death of that gallant officer,
 was guilty of a no less crime than murder. I think
 it should show to this Committee that two days after
 the death of Gen. Lyon, my friend from Missouri
 did not charge Gen. Fremont with crime in failing to
 re-enforce Gen. Lyon. I will read the dispatch of
 Cape Schell, now Gen. Schell, whom my friend
 knows, because he was, I believe, connected
 with his regiment at St. Louis when I was there. I
 want to show the reasons why Gen. Lyon was not
 re-enforced, and I shall show it in a way my friend
 from Missouri cannot deny, unless he denies the au-
 thority of his own documents.

General of Gen. Lyon, dated Springfield, July 15,
 he says:

"Gov. Jackson is concentrating his forces in the south-
 western part of the State, and is receiving large re-enforce-
 ments. It is probable that he will have 20,000 men, prob-
 ably more. All idea of any further advance movement,
 or of even present position, must be abandoned, unless the
 Government furnish us promptly with large re-enforce-
 ments and supplies. Our troops are badly
 equipped, and I think it would be better to wait until
 they are better equipped, and the three months' volun-
 teers have become disheartened to such an extent that very few
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